

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of the instant application, herein, and the following remarks:

The following claims are *pending*: 13-56.

The following claims are *independent*: 12, 15, 24, 35.

The following claims have previously been *cancelled* without prejudice or disclaimer:
1-12.

Please *add new* claims 47-56 and *amend* claims 13, 14, 15, 35, 36, 37, 40, 42 and 45; although these claims have been added herein to provide clarification, correct typographical inaccuracies and/or informalities, and/or to better track practical/commercial implementations/practices (hereinafter “amendment,” “amendments,” and/or “amended”), Applicant submits that the originally filed claims are patentable and reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims (as well as any claims dependent therefrom) at a later time and/or in one or more continuation/divisional application(s). Applicant submits that these new claims are supported throughout the originally filed specification, claims and figures and are based on aspects of the previously allowed dependent claims 26-34. Furthermore, Applicants submit no new matter has been added by way of the amendments or new claims.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments, reconsideration of the instant application and allowance of all claims.

Authorization

Applicant hereby authorizes and requests that the Commissioner charge any additional fees that may be required for consideration of this and/or any accompanying and/or necessary papers to Deposit Account No. 03-1240, Order No. 17209-615. In the event that an extension of time is required (or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time), Applicant requests that the Commissioner grant a petition for an extension of time required to make this response timely, and, Applicant hereby authorizes and requests that the Commissioner charge any fee or credit any overpayment for such an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 03-1240, Order No. 17209-615.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate examination of the application in any way, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,
Attorney(s) for Applicant,
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Dated: May 5, 2010

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